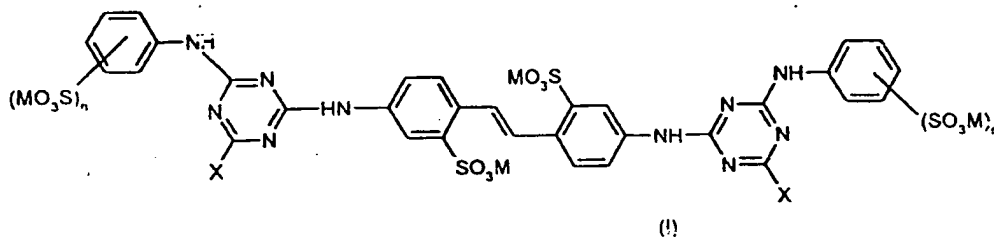


## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A process for the preparation of compounds of the formula (I)



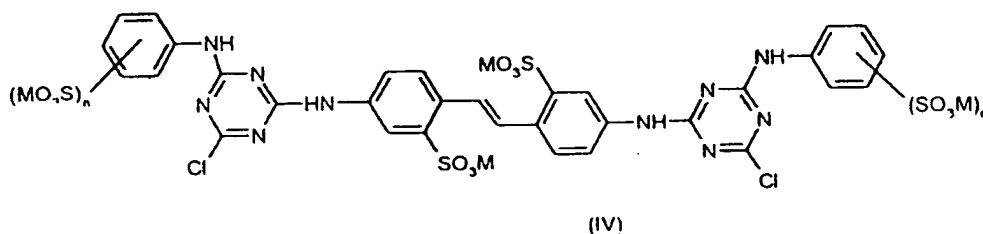
wherein

n represents 0 - 2;

M represents H, alkali metal ion or optionally substituted ammonium ion; and

X represents anilino, N- or N,N-alkylamino;

by reaction of a compound of the formula (IV)



with 2 molar equivalents of an amine of the formula  $\text{X-H}$ , at a pH of 5 - 10, optionally in the presence of an acid-trapping agent which differs from  $\text{X-H}$ , wherein the compound of the formula (IV) is added to an aqueous reaction medium with a temperature of at least  $40^\circ\text{C}$  and the amine of the formula  $\text{X-H}$  and, optionally, the acid-trapping agent are added to the aqueous reaction medium independently of one another and/or during and/or after the addition of IV. The compounds of the formula I which are outstandingly suitable as optical brighteners.